

WEEKLY DENTAL UPDATE



SPECIAL EDITION

February 2, 2012

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: Passing of a Shipmate

1. PASSING OF CAPT JOHN E. FREEMAN USN, DC

It is our sad duty to report the passing of our shipmate [CAPT John E. Freeman](#). The Dental Corps Family sends our deepest sympathies to his family and close friends during this time of sorrow. Family and friends will gather to celebrate John's life and influence on our lives as follows:

Visitations: Thursday, February 2, 2012, 6:30-9:00 pm

Visitations: Friday, February 3, 2012, 2:00 pm, followed by

Memorial Service: Friday, February 3, 2012, 3:00 pm

Visitation and services will be held at:

North Bethesda Methodist Church
10100 Old Georgetown Road
Bethesda, MD



[CAPT John Freeman](#) will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors when Arlington's schedule permits. A burial date has been requested.

The Freeman family wishes to convey their deepest gratitude for your condolences during this difficult time. To honor John's dream of a college education for our children, in lieu of flowers, a college education fund has been established with USAA (Please contact Alison, email: sixfreemans@earthlink.net, for account and routing numbers, or mail checks to 9812 Hillridge Dr, Kensington, MD 20895 to make donations). To sign [CAPT John Freeman's](#) guest book and post a message for the family visit:

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/johnfreeman2011/> (registration is required to access the site)



Pictured above is the Freeman family (from L to R) [CAPT John Freeman](#), sons, Paul, Daniel, Stephen, daughter, Julia, and wife Alison.

Biography

CAPT John E. Freeman

April 13, 1958 – January 30, 2012

Third child of Ed & Tokie Freeman, John grew up in Augusta, Kansas. He ran track and played basketball for Augusta High School where he maintained a 4.0 grade point average. He came to understand and accept the sacrifice of Christ at a Fellowship of Christian Athletes camp in Colorado at the age of 17. As chemistry major at Wichita State University he continued both his track career and his academic excellence.

John's dental school classmates at Baylor University College of Dentistry in Dallas included his future wife, Alison Newkirk. They graduated from Baylor in June 1985 and since both families were in Dallas for the graduation, they added their naval commissioning and wedding to the weekend's festivities. The original plan was to serve in the Navy three years, picking up speed and experience at dentistry and let the Navy pay for their first child. Plans change.

They went from Camp Lejeune, NC to Okinawa, Japan where their first child was born in 1991. Those years of two incomes and no kids whet John's appetite for travel. A short tour at Annapolis was followed by Orthodontic training at Fort Mead, where Paul was born. Tours at Great Lakes, IL, and back to Okinawa saw Julia and Daniel join the family. John reached 20 years active duty while in San Antonio, TX serving at the TORP (Tri-service orthodontic residency). The orthodontic billet at Rota, Spain was available in 2006; it was too tempting a tour to pass up. When John's lymphoma was found in 2010, the family was medically evacuated from Spain to Bethesda, MD to seek treatment.

Throughout his career, John faithfully sought to follow Christ and guide his family to loving relationships with Christ and each other. He served where he saw a need in every community he lived in: youth leader, Sunday school teacher, Parenting Ministry, team photographer, basketball coach and swim coach. He thoroughly enjoyed helping his patients to improved smiles.

Married 26 ½ years, John delighted in his role as father and husband and kept those as his highest priority. He once told Alison that life with her was an adventure and they enjoyed wonderful adventures!

John, 53, is survived by his wife, Alison, sons, Stephen, Paul and Daniel and daughter, Julia, also by his parents, Ed & Tokie Freeman, his sister, Mary Goodwin and brother, Ivan Freeman. ‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.’ (John 14:27)

E. C. Wagner
Chief, Navy Dental Corps